

For Immediate Release
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(Washington, D.C.) - Today Congressman Albio Sires voted for the Fiscal Year 2008 Commerce-Justice-Science Appropriations bill, which provides \$53.6 billion in discretionary spending. This bill restores years of drastic cuts to law enforcement initiatives and provides the tools to ensure that the U.S. remains a global leader in scientific research and technology.

"Violent crime has risen in the last couple of years and this is not the time to slash funding for law enforcement," said Congressman Sires. "Important programs like juvenile delinquency prevention and the hiring of law enforcement personnel are priorities that should not be overlooked."

In the area of law enforcement, H.R. 3093 provides funding in essential areas:

- \$725 million that includes \$100 million for the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) hiring program.
- \$400 million for juvenile justice programs, including youth mentoring and delinquency prevention grants.
- \$430 million for programs that reduce violence against women and addresses domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking.

In the scientific arena, this bill provides \$28 billion for the National Science Foundation and the National Institute of Standards and Technology to keep America competitive in the global market. H.R. 3093 also includes funds for the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration to protect land surrounding our nation's coasts and estuaries, as well as to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration for scientific research in space, aeronautical research, manned exploration in space, and education dedicated to space.

The FY 2008 Commerce-Justice-Science Appropriations bill also provides funding for the creation of a National Academies' Climate Change Committee to investigate issues and make recommendations to address global climate change.

"We need to make sure that federal agencies have the capability to properly record and keep track of climate changes. Addressing climate change has become a necessity, and this bill allows us to have the time to take the appropriate actions to help safeguard our environment," said Congressman Sires.

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